

From: Niki Hansen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 7:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to recommend that the Department of Justice, in the Tunney Review process of the Microsoft Antitrust case, approve the settlement. Actually, I would like to see a settlement more favorable to Microsoft. The Department of Justice has spent way too much money pursuing this non-threat to the consumer at the consumer/taxpayer's expense.

A much bigger threat to the public, software consumers and non-consumers alike, is the giant conglomerate AOL Time Warner. The collection of Books, TV News Channels, Entertainment TV Channels, Cable, Web content sites, Web browsers, and who know what else, in the hands of one corporation is a threat. Books can be hyped as good by their own reviewers, and the word spread by news, TV, and web sites. Books published by others will be handicapped in competing for movie right bids. But, the most frightening, is the serious censoring power when one corporation owns so many sources of news. Even if news is not squelched, it could be slanted by multiple sources that make it sound true. Movie studios were prevented from owning theaters under anti-trust. This big conglomerate is much, much worse.

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